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For a full understanding of the present invention, reference should now be made to the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 5, lines ¹⁰12-19, please amend the paragraphs to read as follows:

TR
124-08

Figs. 1 to 3 are cross-sectional side views of the stripping pliers according to the invention at various operational positions₊.

Fig. 4 shows the stripping pliers according to Figs. 1 to 3 with a long cable end₊.

Fig. 5 is a side view of the stripping pliers₊ of Figs. 1 to 3.

Fig. 6 is a side cross-sectional view of another preferred embodiment of the stripping pliers with a cable cutter₊ and.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, after line ¹⁴15, please add the following heading:

TR
1-24-08

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, please delete lines 19-20 and add the following paragraph:

~~This objective is achieved by automatic stripping pliers with the features of claim 1.~~ This objective, as well as other objectives which will become apparent from the discussion that follows, are achieved, in accordance with the present invention, by providing wire stripping pliers that comprise at least one knife unit having at least one knife holder and a knife carriage articulated on the knife holder; a clamping arm unit with at least one clamping jaw disposed on the front end thereof; a housing base having an upper clamping arm in which the knife unit is displaceably